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HONGKONG, FRIDAY, MAY 4 1917.

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THE WAR.

LATEST TELEGRAMS.

(Reuter's Service to the China Mail.)

NEW BRITISH THRUST. STRONG POSITIONS CAPTURED.

LONDON, May 3.
Field Marshal Sir Douglas Haig reports:—
Heavy fighting is taking place along the whole front of the Hindenburg line, southwards of Senne River, to the Acheville-Vimy road.
We are progressing and have already captured a number of strong positions.

THE THRUST DESCRIBED.

Reuter's Correspondent at Headquarters, telegraphing to-day, says:—
A new British thrust was made just before dawn. It is not permissible to discuss the scheme of attack but suffice it to say that the objectives were several important points, the capture of which would improve our line. Incidentally, such operations may suit a strategic idea by involving very heavy enemy losses; anyhow, we naturally want the most complete mastery of all the dominating positions from which our artillery can effectively devastate the fresh troops which the German command continues to throw into his defence.

As usual, the infantry assault was preceded by a tornado of fire from weapons of all calibres from a fifteen-inch Howitzer and a 'Stokes' trench mortar. The creeping barrage worked with chronometer-like precision, in the order "Go!" snapped forth simultaneously down miles of trenches, and crouching figures soared and formed regular waves behind a crawling wall of palpitating crimson thunder. Then came the deadly rattle of the machine-guns and the ear-stabbing crashes of "busting bombs," as the infantry reached the enemy parapets, followed by a wild confusion as they got to grips in the trenches. The results of the attack are at present unknown.
I hear that the Germans counter-attacked near Favre and Loos, but were repulsed.

THE FRENCH FRONT.

LONDON, May 2.
A French official despatch says:—
On both sides the artillery is active, particularly to the north-west of Rheims and in the Champagne.
A well conducted local operation gained us ground to the west of Mount Cornillet.
The day was quiet everywhere else.
As a reprisal for the enemy bombings of Chalons and Epervier, five French machines last night bombed Treves, causing a violent conflagration.

LONDON, May 3.

A French communiqué reports:—
Artillery activity and patrol encounters are reported throughout the region of Chemins-des-Dunes.

We repulsed enemy raids on the wood to the west of Mount Cornillet and on the heights to the east of Monthaut, where we captured an isolated post which was still holding out. We took the garrison prisoners, consisting of nine officers and 810 men.
Our detachments penetrated the enemy trenches at Wyocourt Wood, on the left bank of the Meuse. There were patrol encounters on the right bank of the Meuse in the direction of Dambloup and Bazeuvaux.

There was intermittent cannonading at several points of the front, notably on the St. Mihiel sector.

LORD CURZON REVIEWS THE WAR SITUATION.

THE SUBMARINE QUESTION.

LONDON, May 2.
Lord Curzon, addressing the Primrose League at Carlton Hall, said that he did not think that submarineism would so diminish our shipping as to affect the ultimate issue of the war. The Cabinet's calculation allowed for wastage of shipping greater than had hitherto occurred.

He said that the situation in Russia is still not without anxiety.

Referring to the increasing strain on Germany, his lordship said that what might eventually happen in the near future was at present impossible to foresee.

Lord Curzon drew attention to the fact that there is no military front on which the enemy is not at present retreating. We are daily learning of increasing enemy desertions and surrenders and the breaking down of discipline.

Lord Curzon considered the introduction of compulsory rationing, necessary, but there is not the slightest cause for panic or real alarm.

RUSSIAN OPERATIONS.

LONDON, May 3.
A Russian official message, transmitted by wireless, reports:—
We repulsed an attack on a height, ten miles to the south west of Oone, and also defeated Turkish attempts to advance to the south-west of Gumabaghane.

We occupied an island on the Dnieper River to the north of Khanykin. Russian hydroplane squadrons destructively bombed Mahmudia on the Danube.

THE SINKING OF THE "GENA."

THE FIRST SHIP TORPEDOED BY A SEAPLANE.

LONDON, May 3.
The sinking of the *Gena* is the first occasion on which a ship has been torpedoed from a seaplane. There is much curiosity as to how the torpedo was fired.

An unofficial account from Aldeburgh indicates that the seaplane was on the surface of the water. It appears that the *Gena*, a ship of 2,784 tons, was attacked by two seaplanes, one on each side. She fired and damaged one, but the other, which was practically on the water, managed to sink the ship. The wrecked seaplane was towed to land. The pilot and observer were taken prisoner. One had been wounded and was sent to hospital. The *Gena's* crew of 27 have landed.

FIGHTING FOR KAISERDOM.

AMSTERDAM, May 3.
The Reichstag has re-opened. The President, referring to the intervention of the United States, said President Wilson's profession of friendship for the German people does not impress them. They would fight for Kaiserdom with their hearts' blood.

SOCIALIST UNREST IN GERMANY.

ZURICH, May 3.
It is reported that many socialists have been arrested in southern Germany during the last few days.

The socialist organ, *Volksrecht*, publishes extracts of seditious German manifestoes, urging a general strike.

HONOURING GENERAL SMUTS.

LONDON, May 3.
A committee composed of members of the House of Lords and of the House of Commons has arranged for a banquet to General Smuts to be held in the Royal Gallery of the House of Lords on May 18. Viscount French will preside, and every member of the two Houses will be invited.

(Continued on page 67)

The Chinese Mail

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INTIMATIONS

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NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the TWENTY-THIRD ORDINARY GENERAL MEETING will be held at the Company's Office, St. George's Buildings, on SATURDAY, the 26th May, 1917, at 12 o'clock noon, for the purpose of presenting the Report of the Directors together with a Statement of Accounts to 25th February, 1917, and electing Directors and Auditors.

The TRANSFER BOOKS of the Company will be CLOSED from the 21st April, to the 25th May, both days inclusive.

By Order of the Board of Directors.
GIBB LIVINGSTON & Co.,
Agents.
Hongkong, April 17, 1917. 1693

INDO-CHINA STEAM NAVIGATION CO., LTD.

THE THIRTY-SIXTH ORDINARY GENERAL MEETING of the Company will be held at the Office of the General Managers, Messrs. Jardine, Matheson & Co., Ltd., Des Voeux Road, Hongkong, on WEDNESDAY, the 3rd May, at 10 o'clock for the purpose of receiving the Report of the Directors, passing the Accounts, and electing Directors and Auditors.

The TRANSFER BOOKS of the Company will be CLOSED from 2nd May to 25th May, both days inclusive.

By Order of the Board.
JARDINE, MATHESON & Co., Ltd.,
General Managers.
Hongkong, April 26, 1917. 1730

THE CHINA-BORNEO COMPANY, LIMITED

NOTICE TO SHAREHOLDERS.

THE FOURTEENTH YEARLY MEETING of SHAREHOLDERS of the above Company will be held at the Company's Office, St. George's Buildings, at 11.30 on FRIDAY, the 19th May, 1917, to receive a Statement of Accounts to the 31st December, 1916 and the Report of the General Manager and Consulting Committee, and to elect a Consulting Committee and Auditor.

The Transfer Books of the Company will be closed from the 3rd May to the 18th May both days inclusive.

The CHINA-BORNEO Co., Ltd.,
W. G. DARBY,
General Manager.
Kowloon, May 3, 1917. 1788

RUSSIAN 5% INTERNAL LIBERTY LOAN 1917.

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The price of issue is 85%.

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The Loan may be repaid at par after the 30th March, 1927.

Coupons are payable half yearly on the 30th March and the 29th September.

Interest on the loan runs from the 30th March, 1917, interest from that date to be added to the price of issue.

Special favourable rates will be quoted for Russian Exchange.

Applications will be wired to Petrograd free of telegraphic charges and Bonds will be forwarded free of postal expenses. The Bank is ready to give every facility to subscribers in the shape of advances against the Bonds.

G. TISDALL,
Manager.
Hongkong, May 3, 1917. 1787

COLUMBIA RECORDS.

- 2520 [It Was A Lover And His Love's Diet
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[In Spring Time
2573 [Song of Australia Baritone and
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2563 [Absent Tenor
[I Know of Two Bright Eyes
2573 [Your Eyes Tenor
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Hongkong, May 1, 1917. 1733

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KARANJI and COMPANY.
Hongkong, April 30, 1917. 1745

UNION INSURANCE SOCIETY OF CANTON, LTD.

NOTICE.

FROM This Date and during the absence of the Undersigned from the Colony, Mr. C. H. P. HAY will perform the duties of the General Manager of the Society.

By Order of the Board,
C. MONTAGUE EDE,
General Manager.
Hongkong, April 30, 1917. 1749

CHINA FIRE INSURANCE CO., LTD.

NOTICE.

FROM This Date and during the absence of the Undersigned from the Colony, Mr. C. H. P. HAY will perform the duties of the General Manager of the Company.

By Order of the Board,
C. MONTAGUE EDE,
General Manager.
Hongkong, April 30, 1917. 1750

BRITISH TRADERS' INSURANCE CO., LTD.

NOTICE.

FROM This Date and during the absence of the Undersigned from the Colony, Mr. C. H. P. HAY will perform the duties of the General Manager of the Company.

By Order of the Board,
C. MONTAGUE EDE,
General Manager.
Hongkong, April 30, 1917. 1751

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CHANGED DARTMOOR.

THE STORY OF THE PRISON.

[BY A TIMES CORRESPONDENT.]

To the chequered history of Dartmoor a fresh chapter is to be added. Chapered it may be called, for while a war prison of the Napoleonic era could have no record comparable with that of a Newgate, a Bastille, or a Conciergerie, much of romance, of comedy and tragedy is packed into the annals of the granite pile on the cold south-west slope of North Hoxbury. The new chapter will center in the fortunes of certain conscientious objectors, for whom Dartmoor becomes a kind of lodging-house. Hence with no exceeding stretch of fancy one may say that it reverts to its original use as a prison of war.

It was not our first war prison. The first was at Norham Cross, near Peterborough, but in the spring of 1803 we had batches of French prisoners coming in every day, and nowhere to place them. Norham Cross was crowded; six third-rate prison ships at Plymouth were crammed. A new war prison was imperatively needed. A site was finally selected in the dreariest, coldest, and foggiest region of Dartmoor: three or four better sites lay to hand. Government having accepted the lowest tender, there was bound to be trouble over the contract, and the work (the roughness of which is visible today in portions of the boundary wall dragged on from the winter of 1805 to May, 1806) when the first draft of 2,500 men marched up from Plymouth. It was a cruelly cold place for Frenchmen (no fires in winter!); there was much sickness, there were many deaths. It was a century ago, and the art of management of which at this day we are proud was undeveloped; but, all allowance made, it is shocking to think that over 10,000 French prisoners of war died in our English jails.

What in the circumstances is rather wonderful is the fine behavior of these French. Life in a war prison submits character to the sharpest test. It is terribly and endlessly monotonous. It is for most prisoners the poverty that often means real hunger; for though at Dartmoor the food was usually good, there was never enough of it. The whole existence is artificial, subject to perpetual and tiresome restraints; and, to sum up (and here is the chief count against it), a war prison is an overcrowded city without women.

THE FRENCH OCCUPANTS.

To this unhappy mode of living the majority of the Frenchmen at Dartmoor adapted themselves in splendid style. There was dealing, of course, for a war prison of those days bred quarrels as it bred fleas. There were breaks for liberty, but escape is the business of the prisoner of war; and the flight of Vanille from Dartmoor is famous. In the main, however, the Frenchmen settled down and shaped their lives to their conditions. Dartmoor was transformed, to the extent that native genius could effect the change, into a French town. Many little trades rose and flourished, and polite callings, dancing and deportment—did not languish. The comedies of Moliere were acted with accessories simpler than those of his own provincial days. The social evil of the place was gambling; and, since few of the prisoners had little more to stake than their clothes, this diversion reduced to sheer nudity some scores of unfortunates, who had to ascend in shame to a cockloft called the Capitol, whence they took their nickname of Romans. In course of time came the Americans. Early in 1818 we had 1,700 American prisoners. Their numbers at Dartmoor swelled to 2,000, and within the double

ring of masonry there were now about as many French: between 9,000 and 10,000 in this narrow space, where nobody knew anything of comfort or ever had enough to eat. From the first the Americans were disaffected, and small blame to them. They came in as paupers, and had to sell their garments to buy food from the French, with whom they never attained to a friendly footing. Presently, through the American agent, Peasley, they got an allowance of three halfpence a day, and when this was augmented by a penny they were affluent, and held their feast of Independence Day. Their own Government was never generous to them, and they owed us no gratitude.

This romantic episode in our military history, involving, if regard be had to the negro prisoners, at least three nations, came to the end and deservedly peace. By February, 1815, the convalescents had been moved from the hospital. The bolts were shot in the great gate, and the rest of Dartmoor as a war prison proper is silent.

After an interval of 30 years some of the buildings were leased in 1846 to a certain "British Patent" Naptha company.

THE CONVICT SETTLEMENT.

Transportation ending in the middle of the century, it was in September, 1850, that the first 20 convicts had been received at Dartmoor. From that period to the present the history of Dartmoor, as Mr. Thomson observes, is the history of the modern system of penal servitude. The establishment is half-factory, half-farm: lying in a desolate, mist-wooden tract, where the sun breaks through for a few weeks every year. Here for the most part come those whom authority regards as the "worst" criminals, albeit the population is marvellously mixed, ranging from university men and Cockney to lascar and Caucasian. In general, the Dartmoor convict has been little known to the public. The prisoner in the dock of the Old Bailey, whose case fills the newspapers is usually treated as a "star glass" man, and sent elsewhere. In 1850 the staff included only 18 warders. It rose year by year to about 230 of all ranks.

Now opens the new chapter. The Prison Commissioners have placed Dartmoor for a time at the disposal of the Home Office Committee for the housing of men exempted from military service. The convicts in the prison, a relatively small number, will be transferred to Portland and Parkhurst. The newcomers will not live in idleness at their country's expense. Government will not treat them so unkindly. The curse of all the older prisons, those of the French Monarchy, our own, and the rest, was the utter stagnation of life in them. The prisoner rotted unemployed. The conscientious objectors at Dartmoor will be tasked, and for this they should be grateful. To punish them would be to shut them within the granite wall and forbid them occupation. They will be engaged principally on land cultivation and reclamation—traditional activities of Dartmoor.

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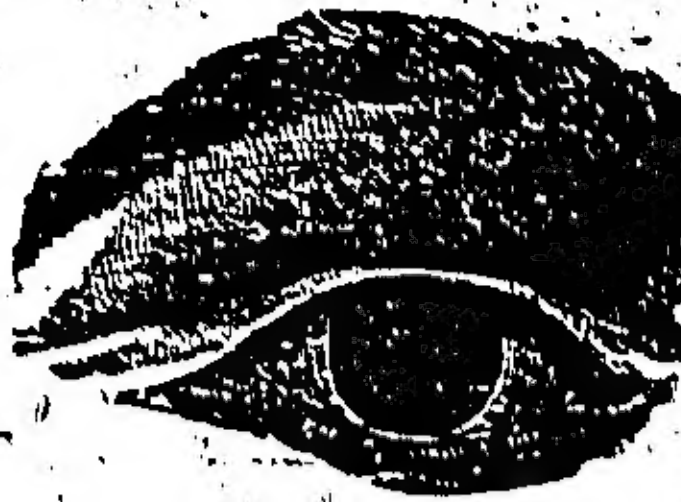
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HONGKONG.

TELEPHONE NO. 516.

To-day's Advertisements

HONGKONG CLUB.

NOTICE.

AN EXTRAORDINARY GENERAL MEETING of the Members of the Hongkong Club will be held in the Club House on **MONDAY, the 14th May, 1917, at 8.15 p.m.**

BUSINESS:—As set forth in the notice posted in the Hall of the Club.

By Order,
E. DES VEXES,
Secretary.

Hongkong, May 4, 1917. 1760

THE CALENDAR.

MEMOS. FOR TO-MORROW.

10.45 a.m.—Auction of Pungit Silk, Dress Materials, Neckties, etc., etc. at Messrs. Hughes and Hough's.
11 a.m.—Auction of Electric Detonators at Messrs. Hughes and Hough's.
Noon.—Hongkong Electric Co. Meeting.
9 p.m.—Overseas Club Aeroblane Fund Concert, Masonic Hall, Kowloon.

General Memoranda.

SUNDAY, May 5:—Accession of King George (1910).
MONDAY, May 7:—2.30 p.m.—Auction of Household Furniture at "Belgoumie," No. 193, The Peak.
TUESDAY, May 8:—2.30 p.m.—Auction of Furniture, Blackwood, Tennis Poles and Netting, Pianos etc. etc. at Messrs. Hughes and Hough's.
WEDNESDAY, May 9:—Proclamation of King George V. 10.45 a.m.—Full Moon.
Noon.—Indo-China Steam Nav. Co's. Meeting.
WED. 9, THURS. 10 & FRI. May 11:—11 a.m.—Auction of Tailor's, Patent Medicines, Perfumery etc. by Mr. Geo. F. Lammert.

THE "CHINA MAIL"

NOTICE.

Communications relating to news should be addressed to THE EDITOR.
Correspondents must forward their names and addresses with any communication addressed to the Editor, not necessarily for publication but as evidence of good faith.

All matter for publication should be written on one side of the paper only.

Letters relating to business should be addressed to THE MANAGER.

Rate of subscription to "China Mail" is \$36 per annum per quarter and per month.

The "China Mail" is delivered free to subscribers in Hongkong and Kowloon.

Postage is charged at the rate of fifty cents a per month.

Orders for extra copies of the "China Mail" should be sent as soon as possible as the supply is limited. Cash 10 cts. Credit 20 cts., per copy.

Rate of subscription to the "Overland China Mail" is \$12 per annum; postage \$1 per annum extra. Single copies twenty five cents each.

Advertisements and additions to Advertisements on pages 2, 3, 4, 5 and 8 should be sent in not later than 1 p.m.

New Advertisements should be sent in before 3 p.m.

Advertisements and Subscriptions which are not ordered for a fixed period will be continued until countermanded.

Telephone Address: "Mail," Hongkong. Code: A.B.O. 5th Edition.

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THE CHINA MAIL, LIMITED.

ALWAYS RECOMMEND IT.

In almost every community there is some one whose life has been saved by Chamberlain's Colic, Cholera and Diarrhoea Remedy. Such persons seldom miss an opportunity to recommend it, and these recommendations and its growing popularity account for its great popularity. For sale by all Chemists and Storekeepers.

NEWS OF THE DAY.

LOCAL AND GENERAL.

A Shanghai telegram reports that a furious hailstorm occurred there last evening and heavy damage was done to windows and skylights.

A cable has been received stating that Miss Bakewell and Miss Storr of the local staff of the Church Missionary Society have arrived safely in England, having travelled home via Canada.

Mr. D. Templeton, Assistant Manager of the Football League, has reported to the Police that bank notes amounting to \$200 have been stolen from the dining room of his residence at Quarry Bay.

The Charity Football Match, R.F.C. winners of the Football League, versus "The Rest," in aid of funds for the St. Dunstan's Home, postponed from last Saturday, will be played to-morrow. The Hon. Mr. Holyoak has kindly consented to present the cup and medals.

The Union Insurance Society of Canton, Ltd., Hon. Secs. and Treasurers of the Hongkong and South China War Savings Association, desire us to call attention to the fact that all monies which members or new members desire to subscribe to the above Association for the investment to be made this week, must be paid in by to-morrow at noon, when the investments for April and the first week in May will close.

A reception was held at the Lusitano Club last evening in honour of Messrs N. B. Maher, C. S. Pereira and F. Marques, who leave shortly for the front. Each of the three volunteers was presented with a purse subscribed by the Portuguese community of Hongkong. The presentation committee was composed of Messrs E. V. M. de Souza (Consul for Portugal), A. F. B. Silva-Netto (President of the Lusitano Club), Paulo Botelho (President of the Club de Recreio), James E. Osmund, (President of the Catholic Union Club) and Leo D'Almada e Castro. Speeches were made by Mr. A. F. B. Silva-Netto and Mr. E. V. M. de Souza (Consul for Portugal) and Mr. V. Goncalves. The Consul made the presentation. Cheers were given for the departing volunteers. The Police Reserve Band, under the direction of Mr. L. Costa, was in attendance.

THE DUFAULT CONCERTS.

The two final concerts given at the Theatre Royal, by Mr. Dufault and his associates were well attended and the artists added to the laurels gained at their previous concerts in Hongkong. At Wednesday's performance, Mr. Dufault was in excellent voice and the audience settled down in confident anticipation of a musical feast as soon as the tenor had sung the first few notes of his opening number which was the Aria from Nigron, "She Never Believed It True," which he sang to perfection. Also his rendering of Chamade's, "Trashion" was a triumph which roused the audience to a high pitch of enthusiasm, to which the gifted singer responded with an extra, which, indeed, was the case with every item on the programme. In the duet, which was heard previously, "I Pardon Thee," from Romeo and Juliet (Gounod), the exquisite blending of Mr. Dufault's and Miss Bindley's voices provided a vocal effect rarely heard in the Colony.

In her solo efforts Miss Bindley again charmed the audience with her wonderful technique, especially in her rendering of "Qui la Voce" from Bellini's "I Puritani." Special mention must be made of Mr. Ernest Empson's accompaning which was characterised by a sympathetic and masterly execution of some very difficult settings, with which only an accomplished pianist could deal. In his Pianoforte Solos, Mr. Empson scored a decided success, being compelled to provide an encore.

These successes were followed up on Thursday evening when the final concert was given. By special request, Mr. Dufault sang "How's My Boy?" with a dramatic emphasis that greatly enhanced the stirring musical setting to this remarkable composition. Miss Bindley and Mr. Empson carried out their parts of the programme in their usual finished style and both artists kindly responded to the repeated calls for encores.

Just prior to the final item Mr. R. Sutherland went on to the stage, and publicly thanked the talented trio for the excellent series of concerts they had given in the Colony, and he specially thanked Mr. Dufault and his party for their kindness in coming forward and helping in an entertainment given for the troops of the Garrison. In response to the tribute Mr. Dufault again sang "Save the King," in which the audience joined.

THE MAGISTRACY.

REHEARING IN POLICE RESERVE CASE.

The case in which a police reserve named Lam Kin Ting (R.S.P.C. No. 185), was sentenced to seven days' imprisonment with hard labour, on the charges of unlawfully absenting himself from ordinary parade, failing to return his rifle, and twice absenting himself from cell (or punishment) duty, was reheard before Mr. J. R. Wood this morning.

The defendant was represented by Mr. Leo D'Almada, on whose application the re-hearing had been granted.

Mr. J. W. Franks, Assistant Superintendent of Police (R.), who had prosecuted and the D. S. P. (R.) (Mr. F. C. Jenkin) appeared for the Police Reserve.

As Mr. Jenkin was suffering from a sore throat he was represented by Mr. E. Potter, who appeared *amicus curiae*.

When applying for a re-hearing in the case, Mr. D'Almada had submitted to the Magistrate that the Ordinance under which defendant had been charged and sentenced, was not applicable under section 10 of the Special Police Ordinance.

Mr. Potter addressed His Worship on this point, submitting that the case was clearly within the ordinance.

After the point had been argued as some considerable length, the case was adjourned.

IGNORANCE OF THE LAW.

An old Chinese was brought before Mr. Wood this morning charged with attempting to export from the Colony, without an export permit from the Superintendent of Imports and Exports, eighteen Hongkong silver dollars.

Revenue Officer Clarke stated that the defendant was stopped, whilst boarding one of the Douglas steamers and the silver was found in his possession.

The defendant pleaded his ignorance of the law and explained to the magistrate that he (the defendant) was a new comer in the Colony, having just arrived yesterday from Hoikow enroute to Swatow.

His Worship informed the defendant that it would be necessary for him to have the silver dollars changed into bank notes, or subsidiary coins, if he wished to take the money out of the Colony; and dismissed the case.

A SHIP'S OFFICER'S DEATH.

CORONER'S INQUEST.

An enquiry into the death of J. B. Johnson, aged 45 years, late Chief Officer of the s.s. *Yut Shing*, stated to have committed suicide in the King Edward Hotel on April 8th, was held before the Coroner (Mr. J. R. Wood) this afternoon.

Dr. Macfarlane, in charge of the Victoria Mortuary, stated that the deceased had died from haemorrhage which had followed incised wounds.

Mr. E. R. Dovey, Government Analyst, deposed that upon analysing the deceased's stomach he discovered a small percentage of opium and a trace of chloroform.

Mr. J. W. Mitchell, manager of the King Edward Hotel, testified to the finding of the body of the deceased in the King Edward Hotel where, at the time of the alleged suicide, the deceased was a guest.

Evidence was given by Lance-Sergeant Shannon of finding the deceased in the Hotel with his throat cut and a blood-stained razor by his side.

The No. 1 "Boy" of the King Edward Hotel and Captain Anderson, master of the s.s. *Yut Shing*, also gave evidence.

The Coroner stated that it was quite clear that deceased had committed suicide whilst of unsound mind.

SPORT.

LEAGUE TENNIS.

Following are the teams to represent the Kowloon Cricket Club in their matches to-morrow:

DIVISION I.
(on the latter's ground)
S. E. Green & E. Abraham
W. Roy & L. Forster
O. R. Chunyat & J. V. Braga.

DIVISION II.
(on the former's ground)
C. W. Jackson & C. O. Stark
C. Stapleton & J. Balaton
J. W. Christian & R. H. Jewsbury.

GROUP.

THIS disease is so dangerous and so rapid in its development that every mother of young children should be prepared for it. It is very risky to wait until the attack of group appears and then send for medicine and let the child suffer until it can be obtained. Chamberlain's Cough Remedy is prompt and effective and has never been known to fail in any case. Always have a bottle in the house. For sale by all Chemists and Storekeepers.

A REFORM ASSOCIATION FOR HONGKONG.

LAST NIGHT'S MEETING.

SPEECHES BY HON. MR. HOLYOAK AND HON. MR. POLLOCK.

The meeting of residents interested in the formation of a Constitutional Reform Association in Hongkong, held at the Theatre Royal last evening, was attended by about 150 persons. The Association was formally inaugurated and officers appointed for the current year.

The Hon. Mr. HOLYOAK (who, on the motion of the Hon. Mr. Pollock, had been elected to take the chair) addressing the meeting, said a speech was made by the Prime Minister last week which amply justified the calling of this meeting, and he proposed to quote very briefly from that speech, which was made at the memorable Guildhall meeting. Referring to the lessons the war had taught financiers, manufacturers, soldiers and sailors, the Premier continued:

"This great World convulsion has altered their ideas about trade and profits, and the future of the country depends upon how much politicians have learned. (Cheers.) I have heard politicians who think that when the war is over the same old machinery will be re-established and the same old methods applied. When the post-war reconstruction begins I hope, trust and pray that we are not to dive into the pig-sticker-hole of any party for dust, lather, suds and programmes. Let me think out the best methods for ourselves in face of the searching facts of which we know nothing before the war. (Applause.) We are a thousand years older and wiser since the war, and the experience of generations has been crowded into just a few winters, and we should be unworthy of the great destiny to which Providence has called this generation if we throw away all that for the sake of formulas framed before the Flood. (Applause.) Things cannot remain where they were. It may be said that the shadowy character of the relations between us and the Dominions and the great territories of the East have produced this real cohesion. That was all very well before they made great sacrifices. They have now established claims to a real partnership. Henceforth, effective consultation must be only on the basis of co-operation. If our action brings them into trouble, as it has, and it costs them millions, and many precious lives, they must henceforth be consulted before we act. (Applause.) Methods must be carefully considered. A great war is not the best time for thinking out perhaps new constitutions, but our councils and our Empire must be a reality."

"Those gentlemen, are the considered words of one of the greatest Prime Ministers that Great Britain has ever had. They are the products of the war and of the age. And they show already how far we have travelled on the basis of development. He says that we cannot go back to the things as they were before the war, and that is, precisely why we are gathered here this afternoon, to form ourselves into an Association called the Constitutional Reform Association of Hongkong. (Applause.) It is the day of business men, and at last the responsible Government of Great Britain has realised this point in a way in which it has never done before. I would remind you that at the very outset of the war the Prime Minister and his Government had the wisdom to call into consultation the greatest financial and business brains which our Empire had within its call, within the precincts of London, and a result of that consultation a *memorandum* was declared which restored order out of chaos throughout Great Britain. He also called together the heads of the great railway organisations throughout Great Britain, and, as a result of their deliberations and assistance, we placed, within a few hours, no less than 30,000 men upon the shores of France. This action was followed by the appointment of business heads for the control of our munitions departments, and so on. As the war developed, the call for the business brains of our Empire has come forth and men have been found for the needs. And as a result of that I believe we have reached a point from which we shall never recede, for the old days of dusty party politics, to a large extent, have gone, and perhaps as the result of this war we shall see an Empire welded solidly together and represented by a business Government and Parliament. (Applause.) Now, gentlemen, no one realises more than we do, who are calling for constitutional reform in Hongkong, that it is not the moment to press our claim to its ultimate issue. Even the Prime Minister himself admits that it is not the moment, but in the course of his speech he gives utterance to the point in a most definite and clear form, that the voice of the great Colonial dependencies of the Empire must be consulted and will be consulted in any part of the policy of the Empire which vitally affects them. (Applause.) And although this is but a small Crown Colony, the things which we have done in this war are not wholly unworthy of us, and we think we have a right to say that as a result of these efforts, and as a result of many years' large military contributions, we have a right to be heard in the councils of the Empire, even though our voice be small. (Applause.) I do believe that, as one result of this war, we are likely to see the delegation of local affairs to local authorities in Great Britain, and that Parliament will be made into a sort of federated Parliament to which every Colony will send its representative, and, for one, do not see why there should not be a Member of Parliament for Hongkong. (Applause.) There are plenty of men who have gone Home, amongst 'the great men' who have been referred to, who are capable of ably representing us, already, and there will be great men in the future who could amply protect any required need in connection with the Colony. (Applause.) Briefly, gentlemen, what we are contending for at the moment is the right—and I pledge my word that we shall push it to the issue as soon as the time comes—of greater representation of the public in the first place on the Legislative Council. (Applause.) As the representative of the Chamber of Commerce, although my experience has been but short, I can tell you that it is disheartening in the extreme for your representative to go to the Council well knowing that the issue which he may propose for the good of the Colony as it is conceived by him—and I claim he will not be fool enough to go there and represent it if he is not practically sure of public feeling behind him—will be turned down by the official minority, which says definitely, 'Your way is barred and you cannot get beyond it.' (A voice—Shame.) But it is due perhaps to a certain extent to you that I should explain—and I do so because His Excellency thinks I have not made my point clear, and above all I desire to be fair and just—that when an unofficial proposal is turned down by the official minority, the entire papers connected therewith and every article in the papers associated with it, are sent home for the consideration of the Secretary of State. I say this in fairness to His Excellency, who, I am perfectly certain, does not attempt in any way to colour the impression which they might convey."

We might be asked—I have been asked personally—what would be the franchise for such increased representation on the Legislative Council, and, possibly the Executive Council, later, although that is a matter for further consideration. I think we are agreed that the only basis upon which the franchise for such an election can reasonably be based would be the 'jurors' list, including such exceptions as occur year by year of necessity. In the second place, this Association is formed, and we hope will be formed, with the desire at the present moment of obtaining increased representation at Home on any Imperial Council, which deals with questions affecting the Colonies as a whole and this Colony in particular. Already on the Imperial Council we have Mr. C. H. Ross, who at one time was head of Jardine, Matheson & Co. here. He is acting as our representative at the request of the Chamber of Commerce. But I think we ought to go further than that, and either appoint him representative of the entire Colony or seek somebody else for that position—(Applause)—because there are questions wider even than the Chamber of Commerce, although I do believe that that body does faithfully and honestly represent the majority of the business opinion in the Colony; and I am perfectly certain its advice is given in questions of this nature in a disinterested manner, and with the desire to serve the Colony as a whole. (Applause.) In the third place, we desire to form this Association in order that it may keep a vigilant eye upon all matters of local interest. (Hear, hear.) When such questions come up in the Council as recently came up in connection with the hospital administration, the support of such an Association will be of inestimable value to the representative, whether he be the representative of the Chamber of Commerce or of the Justices of Peace, who is advocating the reform. And I go further and say that upon any question which arises in connection not only with hospital reforms, or sanitary reform, or street improvements, or anything of that nature, that it is our desire to call such a meeting as this together to obtain your views upon the matter, and to go to the Council backed by the united vote of such a meeting. I am perfectly certain that any recommendation so backed would go a great deal further than has been the case in the past. (Applause.) The voice of public opinion is one that it is, perhaps, difficult to arouse, but once it has been aroused, the value of it cannot possibly be overestimated, and is very likely to produce reforms which would not be got in any other way. Now, gentlemen, the advantages of combined public opinion were so clearly indicated last week in connection with the resolution to exclude Germans from our Colony for a period of years, that henceforth it cannot possibly be said that there is no public opinion or public voice in Hongkong. (Applause.) Given the time and the hour, I believe that it will be called forth just as forcibly as it was this day last week. (Applause.) A vital principle which we wish to lay down most definitely is this—that every department in connection with the Government is here for the public interest. (Applause.) That is a point which needs most clearly recognising. We know well that magnificent services have been rendered by the heads of departments in the past, and that, generally speaking, the various departments are well-managed to-day, but there must be some cleavage from time to time, occasions when the public does not see eye to eye with the Government, and when we think more can be done. Then it is that the Reform Association will come into force, and you will be asked to proclaim by your voice as to whether you think things are right or not. (Applause.) We shall ask later, when the time comes, for a larger control in things which most affect us, and although we do not seek, and shall not seek, to interfere in any question of Imperial warfare, and would not presume to do so, we do say that upon the lines of municipal control we are entitled to a voice. (Applause.) It would be idle to say that every department in this Government is run as ably as it can be, and there is little doubt that lessons can be learned from the 'Model Settlement' in Shanghai, which is entirely under business control, and that some some of its methods could with advantage be adopted to this Colony. (Applause.) When questions are asked in connection with grievances which the public has, we are determined not to have them turned down by an official majority, with an answer which is really no answer at all to the question put. (Applause.) I will now call upon the Hon. Mr. Pollock to address you. (Loud applause.)

SPEECH BY HON. MR. POLLOCK.

The Hon. Mr. H. E. POLLOCK said he was pleased to be addressing the assembly on the inauguration of the Association with proper rules and regulations. It had required some control of patience on his part during the past few months to refrain from bringing forward definite proposals to bring the Society formally into being. But he felt—and he thought that even the most enthusiastic would share the feeling—that the questions connected with the 'great war' that was raging should be first, and that was why, though it had gone against the grain, he had decided that it was only right and proper that there should be a delay interposed between the rejection of a recent petition and the submission of another to the Secretary of State or the House of Commons upon the question of greater representation of the public on the Councils of the Colony. He thought that time had proved the wisdom of the course pursued, because at the present moment they found themselves in the position that constitutional reform could be successfully launched with a great weight of public feeling behind it. (Hear, hear.) In dealing with the matter now they were taking the tide at the flood and they believed that the destiny of the Association would be a forward one now, and that they would be able, by the aid of this Association, to accomplish things for the good of the Colony which they all loved so much. (Applause.) There were practically three aims and objects in connection with the Association. Two of these they could put into operation practically at once. The first was to promote as far as they could everything which was of a municipal interest and importance; the second was to press on the Home authorities the claims of Hongkong to be represented on any Imperial Council or Association to be formed, and also to express their views now upon post-war trade policy. The third object was to increase representation on the Councils of the Colony, but to that he would refer later. With regard to the first two aims, he thought with the Chairman that that body would have considerable weight in any important municipal matter, and if that had been the sole object of the Association it would have fully justified them in bringing it into existence. (Applause.) Dealing with the question of pressing upon the Home authorities the claims of Hongkong to be represented on any Imperial Council or Association to be formed, the hon. gentleman said that as the Chairman had pointed out, they had now in support of representation no less great a person than the Prime Minister of Great Britain. (Applause.) He had expressed himself in no uncertain terms upon the fact that they must not slavishly follow the precedents of the past and that the Home country owed a great debt to the Empire in this war that must be discharged. The Empire must no longer be held in leading strings. Moreover, the Rt. Hon. Herbert Samuel, M.P., who now occupied a leading position in the opposition in the House of Commons, had contributed an article to the *Manchester Guardian* in which he said: 'Unless the British Empire stands for the right of people of European descent to control fully their own destinies it stands for nothing.' (Applause.) And Mr. Samuel, after advocating the formation of an Imperial Cabinet with representatives from the Great Dominions of Canada, Australia, New Zealand, and South Africa pointed out the necessity for an Imperial Assembly to be constituted also. And he said that in that Assembly seats should be held by

only for the representatives of the great Dominions and members of the Imperial Executive but also for delegates from India, Egypt and the Crown Colonies in such numbers as might be decided on. Those last words were an exact quotation from the article. So they found that leading men on both sides in the House of Commons were agreed that in the future the Empire as a whole, and not merely the great Dominions, ought to be represented in an Imperial Assembly. Therefore, he thought, they had every justification now for pressing that matter forward. The third aim and object of the Association—not necessarily the third in importance, but third in order because it would not be wise to press it forward at the moment—sought to put forward the claim of the public that there should be greater representation of the public on the Councils than at present. It was quite clear that before any further petition was sent Home the Association must consider the matter from all sides so the petition might represent the collective wisdom and suggestions of members of the Association. No doubt they would receive a great number of suggestions from letters in the local Press, and in regard to that he would like to remark that he hoped people with suggestions would not be content to stand outside in the outer darkness and throw bricks at the Association, but would come inside and join the enlightened company and thus place themselves in a position to have a full and fair opportunity of bringing forward their views. He was not so foolish as to imagine that the last petition sent home, for which he was mainly responsible, was the ultimate quintessence of wisdom, but felt certain that when another petition was forwarded it would be possible, with the help of the Association and others, whether they were conservative, radical, moderate or extreme, to make it thoroughly representative of public opinion. In that matter they wanted to push together. He did not propose to offer a single suggestion at that meeting as to the terms of any petition, for he wanted all to help in considering the matter. They might take counsel abroad. Personally he felt that the general principle of greater representation was so strong that it could easily be levelled against it. The question of the details, however, was a difficult and complicated one, and in determining this they wanted the united intellect and wisdom of the Colony. The position of an unofficial member of the Legislative Council at the present time could only be described as an exceedingly depressing one. They could not imagine how hopeless it seemed to be—no matter how eloquent they were or thought they were—to achieve anything when they were always in a hopeless minority. They might work as much as they liked, and work up their subject as much as they liked, but as soon as the fiat went forth from their chair that the motion by the unofficial members was to be defeated it was just as much automatically defeated as if a penny were put in the slot. He hoped that in the course of a few months they would see things returning to a more normal condition at Home, and if there appeared to be a reasonable prospect of obtaining a hearing they might be quite sure that the question of forwarding a fresh petition would be promptly taken in hand. (Applause.) He impressed upon the more eager amongst them who he included himself—that they must exercise a little more patience, as it was no use, when everybody's hands were full of the war, to send Home a petition asking them to consider what Hongkong wanted in the way of greater representation on the Legislative Council. It would be wiser to wait for a favourable opportunity, which, no doubt, would come as time went on. He believed that the moderate opinion in the Colony would gradually veer round to their point of view if patience were exercised and they would be able to go before the authorities at Home as a united Colony determined in the cause of constitutional reform. (Loud applause.)

THE RULES.

The Rules of the Association, as printed in the *China Mail* of May 2nd, were adopted after Clause 7 had been amended so as not to limit the size of the Committee.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS.

The Hon. Mr. POLLOCK proposed that the Hon. Mr. Holyoak be the first President of the Association. There was only one man for the post, he said, and that was Mr. Holyoak, who had shown, since he had been a member of the Legislative Council, that he was a very staunch supporter of anything connected with the interests of the Colony (Applause.)

Mr. H. HUMPHREYS seconded and the proposal was carried with applause. Mr. HOLYOAK, in acknowledging the compliment, said he had pressed his hon. friend Mr. Pollock to be the first President of the Association, but he had replied that a business association must have a business man at its head and so he accepted, under strong pressure, being more helpful than probably some of them gave him credit for. In his humble capacity he would do all he could for the Association.

Mr. ORMSBY moved and Mr. A. M. Williams seconded the election of the Hon. Mr. Pollock as Vice President of the Association; carried most unanimously.

Mr. A. M. Williams was elected Hon. Treasurer, and Mr. John Bentley, Hon. Secretary.

The following Committee was also chosen:—Messrs F. B. L. Bowley, A. G. Coppin, A. Forbes, W. L. Pattenden, A. S. L. Cowland, C. M. Ede, H. Humphreys, E. Ormsby, D. Templeton, and C. D. Wilkinson.

The Chairman remarked that it had been fully realised that that Committee was by no means complete, but the simple truth was that a great many gentlemen whom they hoped to see on the Committee—the would

not say they were "sitting on the fence"—but were rather anxious and were exceedingly anxious to know what would happen at that meeting before saying "yes" or "no." (Laughter.) He hoped that, as a result of that meeting, their suspicions would be removed and that they would come forward and co-operate heartily in the aims which the Association had in view. (Applause.) They hoped to add many more names to the Committee during the next few days, and, as it was desirable to make the Committee as widely representative as could possibly be, they would be exceedingly glad to receive, from anyone, by post or "chit," nominations of gentlemen whom they might think ought to be on the Committee as representing a part of the community which, perhaps, had not yet been touched. They did not want any hole-in-the-corner committee, (applause.) An invitation was then given anyone present, who wished to do so, to address the meeting.

There being no response the Chairman said:—"I thank you for your attendance. I hope this will mean better days for Hongkong." (Applause.)

On the motion of Mr. G. C. Moxon, a vote of thanks was accorded to the Chairman.

TELEGRAMS.

(Continued from Page 1.)

"THE TASK OF KILLING GERMANS."

BRITISH ARTILLERY THUNDERING CEASELESSLY.

LONDON, May 2.

"Though the infantry is comparatively inactive on the Western front, this does not mean the suspension of the task of killing Germans. On the contrary, the British artillery is thundering ceaselessly day and night, over the Domain plain giving the enemy no rest."

The results of the recent offensive may be summed up as being that a considerable part of the Hindenburg line is in British possession and another section is endangered. The British have captured the Hindenburg line between Arras and Croisilles and held 9,000 yards of the old German positions to the north of the Scarpe, and by an attack on the Arras and Lens fronts have turned the Hindenburg line between Arras and Queant, thus creating a situation full of strategic possibilities.

Meanwhile, the breach effected in the German front in the Moronvillers region in Champagne seriously menaces the formidable positions at Berry and Nogent l'Abbesse, overlooking Rheims.

BRITISH TRANSPORT TORPEDOED.

LONDON, May 3.

The Admiralty reports that the British transport *Arcturion*, carrying troops, was torpedoed in the eastern Mediterranean on April 15. She sank in five minutes. Two hundred and ninety-seven who are missing, are presumed to have been drowned.

BRAZIL AND THE WAR.

FOREIGN MINISTER RESIGNS.

RIO DE JANEIRO, May 3.

The Foreign Minister, M. Mueller, has resigned.

The Government has ordered the detention of the ex-German Minister, Herr Paull, owing to the information received that the Brazilian Minister in Germany has been detained.

GERMAN APOLOGY TO ARGENTINA.

GERMAN SQUADRON TO SALUTE "AT FIRST OPPORTUNITY."

BUENOS AIRES, May 3.

Germany has apologised for the sinking of the *Protegido* and has offered compensation, and has also promised that a German squadron shall salute the Argentine flag at the first opportunity.

CHILI BREAKS RELATIONS WITH GERMANY.

AMSTERDAM, May 3.

A message from Berlin states that the Chilean Minister has announced the rupture of relations between Chili and Germany and has demanded his passports.

FOOD SHORTAGE IN EUROPE.

THE PINCH IN SCANDINAVIA.

LONDON, May 3.

As further evidence of the European food shortage, Norway is preparing to introduce rationing and Sweden has prohibited the export of various foodstuffs including pork, shell-fish, fruits, vegetables and provisions.

THE IMPERIAL WAR CONFERENCE.

SOME OF THE RESOLUTIONS.

LONDON, May 2.

The Secretary of State for the Colonies has issued a statement respecting the work of the Imperial War Conference, now approaching the end of its labours, together with some of its resolutions.

He states that, some matters are of the most confidential character, and as present the publication of the resolutions, and the debates connected with them would probably not be possible till after the war.

The statement records that the decision of the Conference was unanimous with respect to the resolutions now to be published. On no occasion was it necessary to divide upon or withdraw a motion because agreement was not capable of being reached.

The statement comments upon a few of the resolutions. It notes a resolution of thanks to the Secretary of State for the Colonies. As Chairman, Sir Frederick Borden touchingly paid a tribute to the late Brigadier Long, who had fallen in the country's service. Sir Frederick Borden and other speakers expressed their gratification at the presence of the son of the statesman who had done so much to promote the idea of Imperial unity—the late Mr. Joseph Chamberlain.

The resolutions recommend the appointment at the earliest possible moment of an expert committee representing the United Kingdom, the Dominions, and the Indian military authorities, to consider the various patterns of military stores and equipment in use with a view to selecting standard patterns for general adoption as far as the special circumstances in each country will permit.

That the Ordnance personnel of the Empire military organisations be trained on the same methods and principles, and that Ordnance officers from all parts of the Empire should be attached for adequate periods, to the Imperial Ordnance Department.

That the Admiralty be requested to work out immediately after the war the most effective scheme of Empire naval defence for the consideration of the Governments summoned to the conference, with the Admiralty's recommendations regarding the Empire's future security.

The Conference welcomed the increase in the number of Trade Commissioners and recommends the Governments concerned to co-operate in assisting the service, especially for the promotion of inter-Imperial trade.

It records the view that the 1907 Imperial Conference resolution should be modified to permit the full representation of India at all future conferences and the assent to this of the various Governments should be obtained.

It pays the King to constitute by Royal Charter an Imperial War Graves Commission on the lines proposed by the Prince of Wales to the Prime Minister. The Conference records its deepest appreciation of the French Government's generosity in allowing, for perpetuity, the land where our men are buried and urges that similar arrangements be made in the peace terms, with all Ally, enemy and neutral Governments in Gallipoli, Mesopotamia, Africa and elsewhere.

The Conference is of the opinion that the re-adjustment of the Constitutional relations between the component parts of the Empire is too important and intricate a subject to deal with during the war, and should be discussed at a special Imperial Conference immediately after the war.

The Conference records that such re-adjustment, while thoroughly preserving all the existing powers of self-government and complete control of domestic affairs, should be based upon the full recognition of the Dominions' as autonomous nations of the Imperial Commonwealth, and India as an important portion thereof, and should recognise the right of the Dominions and India to an adequate voice in foreign policy and foreign relations. It should provide effective arrangements for continuous consultation on all important matters of common or Imperial interest and for such concerted action, founded on consultation, as the several Governments may determine.

The Conference recognises the importance of securing uniformity of the Empire's policy and action in regard to naturalisation and recommends the proposals submitted by

the Home Office to the Overseas Governments.

It recommends that steps should not be delayed for the establishment in London of an Imperial Mineral Resources Bureau on which the whole Empire should be represented and whose duties should include advising how mineral resources may be developed and made available to meet the Empire's needs requirements. In view of the experience of the war the Conference draws attention to the importance of developing an adequate capacity for the production of naval and military material for munitions and supplies in all the important parts of the Empire, including the countries bordering the Pacific and Indian oceans, where such facilities do not at present exist. The Conference affirms the importance of close co-operation between India and the Dominions, and the United Kingdom, with this object.

It urges that the present system of double income taxation within the Empire be taken in hand immediately after the war and the law amended regarding the present unsatisfactory position.

In view of the experience of the war, the Conference records that the safety of the Empire and the necessary development of its component parts require prompt and attentive consideration and concerted action in regard to, firstly, the production of adequate food supply, arrangements for transportation when and where required, and under any conditions reasonably to be anticipated; secondly, the control of the natural resources available within the Empire, especially those of an essential character for any necessary national purpose, whether during peace or war; and thirdly, the economical utilisation of such natural resources through manufacturing processes carried on within the Empire. The Conference recommends the Governments concerned to consider the enactment of legislation in that direction.

After expressing the view that the time has arrived for all possible encouragement to be given to the development of Imperial resources, especially making the Empire independent of other countries in respect of food supplies, raw materials and essential industries, the Conference favours, firstly, the principle that each part of the Empire, having due regard to the interests of the Allies, shall give specially favourable treatment and facilities to the produce and manufactures of other parts of the Empire; and secondly, arrangements whereby intending immigrants from the United Kingdom may be induced to settle in countries under the British flag.

The Conference, having examined the memorandum on the position of Indians in the self-governing Dominions, presented by the Indian representatives, accepts the principle of reciprocity of treatment and recommends the memorandum to the favourable consideration of the Governments concerned.

The Oversea members of the Conference, conclude by appreciatively acknowledging the services of the Rt. Hon. Walter Long, Secretary of State for the Colonies, in connection with the Conference, the courtesies of the Government and the generous hospitality of the people of the United Kingdom.

AN ADDRESS TO THE KING.

LONDON, May 2.

The members of the Imperial War Conference presented an address to the King at Windsor. After expressing loyalty to the Throne and to the King's person, the address says:

"It has been the privilege of the members of the Conference to share in the deliberations with a view to securing a victorious conclusion of the conflict and further to consider steps to secure that the fruits of victory shall not be lost by unpreparedness after the war, thus preventing an unscrupulous enemy repeating his outrages upon the liberties of civilisation. We are returning home inspired by the magnificent efforts of all classes of His Majesty's subjects throughout the world, and are confident that this trials and sacrifices borne in common, will draw still closer the bonds of Imperial unity and co-operation."

The address was signed by the Rt. Hon. Walter Long and all the members of the Conference.

THE KING'S REPLY.

LONDON, May 3.

The Press Bureau announces that the King, in replying to the address of loyalty from the members of the Imperial War Conference at Windsor, said:—"Your deliberations will have the lasting advantage not only of bringing the war to a victorious conclusion but will ensure that we shall be prepared for the peace tasks of the organisation of the resources of the Empire with a view to rendering it self-sustaining, and strengthening the ties and knitting together all parts of the Dominion." His Majesty expressed his satisfaction that the Indian representatives had participated in the deliberations and said he was of the opinion that the consequent personal intercourse would create a growth of the spirit of larger sympathy and understanding between India and the Dominions. The present gathering was a giant stride on the road to progress and Imperial development which he was assured, would steadily continue. His Majesty deeply regretted the unavoidable absence of the Australian representatives, but that great Dominion stands second to none, he said, in its determination to assist in the present conflict. His Majesty trusted that all the Dominions and India would be represented at the next conference.

The King paid a tribute to the war services and the gifts of the Dominions and India. "The Queen and myself," said His Majesty, "recall the happiest recollections of our visit to the Dominions and look forward to the day when some of our children will have the opportunity of acquiring a similar priceless experience."

His Majesty rejoiced over the prospect of improved communication linking up the Empire, and he hoped for increased inter-Empire visits.

The King was accompanied by the Queen, Princess Mary and Princes Albert, Henry and George. The Conference members, all of whom were previously known to their Majesties, were presented by the Rt. Hon. Walter Long. In a clear resonant voice, Sir R. L. Borden read the address and the King was obviously much touched when he himself read the reply. The whole party thereupon proceeded to lunch, which consisted of strict war rations and no intoxicants. On the King's right sat Mr. Walter Long and on his left Sir Robert Borden. The Queen sat opposite, with Mr. Austen Chamberlain on her right and Mr. Massey on her left.

AN AMPLIFIED REPORT.

LONDON, May 3.

The following is an amplification of the second section of the King's reply to the members of the Imperial War Conference at Windsor:—

"In the midst of the present terrible struggle, the magnificent contributions of men, munitions and money, made by all parts of the Empire has been a source of the greatest pride and satisfaction to me. Vast armies have been raised in the Dominions and have taken, or are taking the field, side by side with those of the United Kingdom, to fight the common foe in the cause of justice and those free institutions which are the very keystone of the Empire. It is fitting also that I should here specially refer to the munificent gifts of money made towards the expenses of the war by the Government and the Princes and peoples of India."

"I look forward to the day when some of our children will, in their turn, have the opportunity of acquiring similar priceless experiences by such visits. I rejoice at the prospect of a better means of communication, which will more effectively link up the various portions of the Empire, and I trust the days to come will see an ever-increasing exchange of visits and personal intercourse between the mother country and the Dominions, brotherhood help to form the surest foundations on which the State can rest. The value of Empire lies not only in greatness and strength but in the several contributions that each of its diverse parts with varying circumstances and conditions, makes to one general stock of knowledge and progress."

I thank you for coming here personally to present the address, and may God bless and protect you all and grant you a safe return home on the conclusion of your labours."

After lunch the party adjourned to the drawing room where the Royal Family unceremoniously and animatedly conversed with their guests. After a stay of two hours the delegates left the Castle.

Reuters's Correspondent accompanying the delegates, is authorised to state that the King, deeply appreciated, and was much touched by the expression of loyalty and devotion, and by the spirit which prompted the presentation of the address. Also that the delegates

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were equally impressed by the cordiality of their reception and welcomed the King's reference to future Royal visits to the Dominions.

The members of the Conference were unanimous in the opinion that it was a fitting finale to an unforgettable mission to London in this crisis in the world's history.

On the return journey, General Smuts, Mr. Morris, Mr. Ward and Mr. Massey and others, visited Queen Mary's Hospital at Southampton and witnessed the work of fitting and training for their future life, maimed soldiers, including many from the Dominions. They were much impressed by the way in which armless and legless men, by means of artificial limbs, performed most of the functions of the able bodied. They saw the armless digging and the legless cycling. The maimed soldiers accorded three hearty cheers to the members of the Conference, who suitably acknowledged them.

SECRET SESSION OF PARLIAMENT.

LONDON, May 3.

In the House of Commons, Mr. Bonar Law announced that a secret session would be held on May 10. A vote of credit would come before the House on May 9. He could not say when a statement in connection with Ireland could be made.

SIR EDWARD CARSON.

LONDON, May 3.

The *Daily Telegraph* states that Sir Edward Carson has no intention of resigning in consequence of criticisms of his past political career.

CHINA AND THE WAR.

THE CABINET'S DECISION.

The four Generals who waited on the Premier on Wednesday while the Cabinet was sitting and demanded that the Cabinet should decide to declare war against Germany without any further delay—a demand with which the Cabinet promptly complied—were General Wei Sei Chung (Civil Governor of Anhui), General Chang Wai Chee (Military Governor of Shantung), General Mang Yan Yuen (Military Governor of Kirin), and General Li How Kee (Military Governor of Fukien Province).

A telegram from Peking received to-day states that on hearing the Cabinet's decision the Entente Ministers called on Dr. Wu Ting Fang, the Minister of Foreign Affairs. The Premier has invited all the members of the two Houses of Parliament to his residence for the purpose of explaining to them the reasons for the Cabinet's decision to declare war against Germany.

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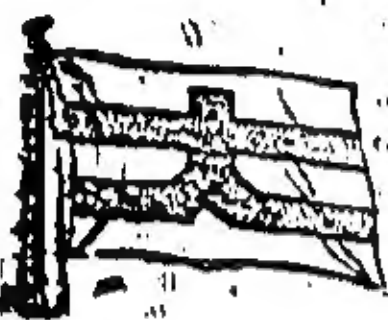
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